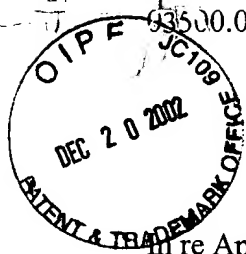


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

DEC 24 2002

RECEIVED

In re Application of:

TETSUYA YANO ET AL.

Appln. No.: 09/430,029

Filed: October 29, 1999

For: DNA FRAGMENT CARRYING
TOLUENE MONOOXYGENASE GENE,
RECOMBINANT PLASMID,
TRANSFORMED MICROORGANISM,
METHOD FOR DEGRADING
CHLORINATED ALIPHATIC
HYDROCARBON COMPOUNDS AND
AROMATIC COMPOUNDS, AND
METHOD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
REMEDICATION

Examiner: E. Slobodyansky

Group Art Unit: 1652

December 13, 2002

The Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 13, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19, 21, 27, 33, 34, 48, and 55 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on Dec 13, 2002 (Date of Deposit)

Michael K. O'Neill

Michael K. O'Neill
Signature Date of Signature

12/23/2002 DEMHANU1 00000042 061205 09430029

02 FC:1201 336.00 CH
03 FC:1202 72.00 CH
04 FC:1203 280.00 CH